

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1969

ALWYN GRIFFITH,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

A. McCARTNEY
F.A.P.H.I.

BWRDEISDREF WRECSAM

ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL

Y

SWYDDOG MEDDYGOL

A'R

PRIF AROLYGWR IECHYD

AM Y FLWYDDYN 1969

ALWYN GRIFFITH,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

A. McCARTNEY
F.A.P.H.I.

Y PWYLLGOR IECHYD, 1969

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1969

Chairman — Councillor Dr. L. WISE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.C., PATH.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor SILAS DAVIES, J.P.

Alderman E. DAVIES, J.P.

” H. GRIFFITHS

” Mrs. C. JARVIS JONES

” E. McMAHON

” **R. ROBERTS**

” A. E. STABLER

His Worship the Mayor,
Councillor HARRY MOORE

Councillor H. DOWNING

” CLIFFORD HUGHES

” C. JACKSON, J.P.

” G. O. JONES

” Miss M. M. JONES, J.P.

” J. B. KYFFIN

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” L. C. MOORE

” G. H. PARRY

” J. H. TAPLEY, B.E.M.

” H. TAYLOR

” J. B. WILLIAMS

” W. C. WHITEHALL

” Mrs. L. V. WISE, B.A., J.P.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 1969

Medical Officer of Health

ALWYN GRIFFITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Abattoir Superintendent

A. McCARTNEY, F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

B. JONES, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

E. T. CREWE, M.A.P.H.I.

P. R. ATKIN, M.A.P.H.I.

H. E. ROBERTS, M.A.P.H.I.

Authorised Meat Inspector:

C. CATER, A.R.S.H.

Articled Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

B. P. CULLINANE

W. E. G. BLACK

Clerical Staff to the Health Department

Miss M. B. PARRY

Miss B. BEAKS

Miss V. DYER

TO THE CHAIRMAN

AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present this report on the work of the Health Department during the year 1969. The year, the last of a decade, ended with the Health Services in expectation of changes, changes which may bring unification of the three branches and an improvement in the state of the health services.

The nineteen sixties have seen some notable advances in medicine and also some undesirable phenomena such as a resurgence of venereal disease, an increase in illegitimacy and, in some areas epidemics of drug taking.

Looking back to 1960, however, we may justly feel that progress has been made in various fields. The population of the town has steadily increased by over 5,000. The infant mortality rate averaging 26.1 in the years 1955-60 was reduced to 18.6. In 1960 there were 30 notifications and 6 deaths from tuberculosis, there were 700 cases of measles notified and one young man died of poliomyelitis. In 1969 there were 5 notifications of tuberculosis and one death, under 400 cases of measles and none of poliomyelitis.

On the environmental side the outstanding achievement has undoubtedly been the implementation of the Clean Air Act. A smokeless Wrexham will do more than any other single factor to reduce the morbidity and mortality from chest diseases. Further progress has been made in clearance of unfit houses.

During the decade changes in food processing and manufacture have continued at an increasing pace, bringing in their trail advantages, and some disadvantages. The rapidly growing frozen food industry enables the housewife to obtain fresh and nutritious foods irrespective of season. On the other hand, vastly increased sales of broiler chicken have been clearly implicated as the source of recent outbreaks of food poisoning. Chickens cooked on a spit do not always reach a sufficient temperature for a sufficient period of time. The three notifications of food poisoning notified during the year were certainly only a very small proportion of the total number of cases that must have occurred — self diagnosed as gastric flu when occurring

at home, a change of air or water when on holiday in Britain but recognised for what they really are, poisoning resulting from dirty food habits when occurring on the Continent. The Clean Food Exhibition held from 5th-10th May was visited by 2,000 persons. It is hoped that it served its intended purpose of educating the public in the importance of clean handling of food, of complete and adequate cooking and efficient storage.

Expectation of life at birth has increased dramatically but at middle age the increase is relatively slight. One area where deterioration has occurred in the last decade is coronary artery disease, particularly in middle aged males. Cancer at various sites was responsible for 22% of all deaths. It is gratifying to report a further reduction in deaths from lung cancer in males. This improvement, however, is offset by an increase in deaths from bowel cancer and twice the number of deaths from breast and uterine cancer. Of all deaths under the age of 65 years 47 were either preventable or capable of complete cure with early diagnosis and effective treatment

One field where facilities are not keeping pace with the demand is that of the care of the elderly and the handicapped. It is unlikely that the shortage of money for basic services provided by government and local authority departments will be substantially alleviated during the next ten years. There will be an ever increasing need for voluntary help. The community owe a great deal to numerous voluntary organisations and individuals who are ready to give their spare time to help others.

Many of the statutory services from birth until old age are provided by the County Health Department and it is a pleasure to acknowledge the help and co-operation of Dr. M. T. Islwyn Jones and his staff.

I thank Mr. McCartney and all the staff of the Health Department. The Chief Public Health Inspector's report underlines the amount of work carried out and one wonders at the versatility of the modern Public Health Inspector.

I thank you Mr. Chairman and all members of the Health Committee for your continued help and guidance during the year.

Yours sincerely,

ALWYN GRIFFITH,

Medical Officer of Health.

I GADEIRYDD AC AELODAU'R PWYLLGOR IECHYD.

Mr. Cadeirydd, Foneddigesau a Boneddigion.

Gyda phleser y cyflwnaf yr Adroddiad hwn ar gyflwr iechyd y Fwrdeisdref yn y flwyddyn 1969. Bu'r flwyddyn, yr olaf yn y chwe-degau, orffen gyda gobaith a hyder y byddai uniad tair cangen y Gwasanaeth Iechyd yn arwain i well gwasanaeth i'r cyhoedd.

Yng nghwrs y chwe-degau gwelliannau pendant ym myd meddygaeth — ond hefyd rai agweddau annymunol, megis cynnydd yn nifer achosion gwenerol, mewn genedigaethau anghyfreithlon heb son am yr epidemig o ddibynnu ar gyffuriau ymysg yr ifanc.

Er hynny, o edrych yn ôl i 1960 teimlaf bod lle i ymlawenhau o sylwi ar y gwelliannau mewn amryw faes. Bû i'r boblogaeth gynyddu'n gyson hyd dros 5,000. Bû gostwng yng nghyfartaledd marwolaeth babanod i 18.6 — cymherir hyn â'r cyfartaledd 26.1 rhwng 1955-60. Yn 1960 roedd 30 o achosion newydd a chwe marwolaeth o'r dyciau, 700 achos o'r frech goch a bû un gŵr ifanc farw o haint y polio. Yn 1969 hysbyswyd 5 achos o'r dyciau, llai na 400 o'r frech goch, a dim un o haint y polio.

Efallai mae'r orchest amlycaf yn ystod y cyfnod oedd y penderfyniad i symud ymlaen i buro'r awyr yn ôl Deddf 1956. Fe fydd tre heb fwg yn foddion pwysicach nag odid unrhyw ffactor unigol arall i liniaru'r dioddef a'r golled o effeithiau'r bronceitis. Cymrwyd camau pellach i glirio y nifer cymharol fechan o dai annaddas.

Bu cynnydd syfrdannol ym maes marchnata bwydydd yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Gall gwraig y tŷ bellach gael bwydydd ffres a maethlon ym mhob tymor. Ond yn sgil y manteision daeth perygl — bû i'r blas am gyw iar (a phris y cig) arwain i foddion newydd o gynhyrchu a gwyddis i sierwydd i'r cywion hyn fod yn gyfrifol am amryw achos o wenwyno. Tri achos o wenwyno gan fwydydd a hysbyswyd yn ystod y flwyddyn — ond yn sier 'roedd y nifer yn llawer iawn uwch; pan ddigwydd gartref nid gwenwyno yw ond rhyw "anwyd ar y stumog" ac os ar wyliau (ym Mhrydain) newid awyr neu y dŵr sy'n gyrifol; ond ar y cyfandir cytunwn mae'r achos yw bwyd wedi ei baratoi'n esgeulus. Pwrpas yr Arddangofa Bwydydd Glan ym mis Mai oedd addysgu'r cyhoedd yn y moddion diogel i baratoi a storio bwydydd.

Mae gobaith pob plentyn a enir heddiw y gall fwynhau bywyd i oedran teg yn llawer uwch nag yr oedd. Ond nid felly i'r gŵr canol oed. Cynnyddu'n ddifeth mae'r marwolaethau o glefyd y galon — yn wir dyma un maes lle bu dirywiad yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Bu 38 yn fwy o farwolaethau o'r coronary nag yn ystod 1968. Bù'r caner yn gyfrifol am 22% o'r holl farwolaethau. Pleser yw nodi lleihad pellach yn y marw o ganer yr ysgyfaint ond yn anffodus bù cynnydd annisgwyl yn yr achosion o ganer y perfedd a'r grôth a dwyaith gymaint o farwodaethau o ganer y fron. Sylwir y gallesid fod wedi atal neu wella 47 o'r marwolaethau dan oedran 65 gyda diagnosis cynnarach a thriniaeth effeithiol.

Ym maes yr hen a'r methodig rhaid cydnabod nad yw'r cyfleusderau'n ddigonol ac mae'n annhebyg y gwelir gwelliant pendant yn ystod y saith degau. Bydd yr angen am gymorth gwirfoddol yn fwy angenrheidiol nag erioed. Mae ein dyled yn barod yn fawr i amryw gymdeithasau ac unigolion sy'n barod i roi o'u hamser a'u hegri i helpu eraill.

Darperir amryw o'r gwasanaethau ar gyfer pob oedran gan Adran Iechyd y Sir a phleser yw cael cydnabod cymorth a chydweithrediad y Dr. M. T. Islwyn Jones a'i staff.

Diolchaf i Mr. McCartney a'r oll o staff; wrth ddarllen yr Adroddiad hwn ynghyd ag Adroddiad y Prif Arolygwr Iechyd, ni ellir llai na rhyfeddu at amryddawn ddoniau yr Arolygwyr.

Diolchaf i chwi Mr. Cadeirydd ac i oll o aelodau'r Pwyllgor Iechyd am bob cymorth a chyfarwyddyd yn ystod y flwyddyn.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

ALWYN GRIFFITH,

Swyddog Meddygol.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	2,916 Acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ... (Mid Annual)	37,620
Rateable Value of the Borough, April, 1969	£1,400,063
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate, 1969/70	£5,500
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate, 1970/71	£5,700
No. of Private dwellings (1st April, 1969)	6,352
No. of Council dwellings (1st April, 1969)	5,880
Density of persons per dwelling	3

POPULATION TRENDS SINCE 1959

Year.	Population		Annual Increase/Decrease	Natural Increase.
1959	32,970	Estimated figure	+ 320	297
1960	32,590	Estimated figure	— 380	196
1961	35,427	Estimated figure	+ 2,837	315
1962	35,800	Estimated figure	+ 373	346
1963	36,120	Estimated figure	+ 320	292
1964	36,300	Estimated figure	+ 180	333
1965	36,670	Estimated figure	+ 370	295
1966	36,910	Estimated figure	+ 240	247
1967	37,120	Estimated figure	+ 210	271
1968	37,400	Estimated figure	+ 280	294
1969	37,620	Estimated figure	+ 220	187

VITAL STATISTICS

Area Comparability Factors:

Births	0.93
Deaths	1.18

LIVE BIRTHS

			1969	1968
Legitimate	290 males	303 females	593	626
Illegitimate	31 males	22 females	53	58
Total	321 males	325 females	646	684
Rate per 1,000 population			17.1	18.5
Rate adjusted to national			15.9	17.2

STILLBIRTHS

Legitimate	8 males	4 females		
Illegitimate	0 males	1 female		
Total	8 males	5 females	13	14
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths			19.7	20.0

INFANT DEATHS		1969	1968
Early neo-natal (first week)			
	5 males 3 females	8	2
Rate per 1,000 live births		12.4	2.9
Neo-natal (first month)			
	5 males 3 females	8	2
Rate per 1,000 live births		12.4	4.8
Perinatal (stillbirths + neo-natal)			
	13 males 8 females	21	17
Rate per 1,000 total births		31.8	22.9
Infant deaths (first twelve months)			
	7 males 5 females	12	13
Rate per 1,000 live births		18.6	19.0
Maternal Deaths		1 female	—
Deaths at all ages			
	246 males 213 females	459	386
Rate per 1,000 population		12.2	10.3
Rate adjusted to national		14.3	11.7

The population at mid 1969 as estimated by the Registrar General was 37, 620 and it is on this figure that the vital statistics for the year are computed. The figure is an increase of 220 over 1968, including a natural increase of 187 births over deaths.

The number of live births is the lowest since 1960 and the downward trend since 1967 has continued — following the pattern for England and Wales from 1965. This decrease in the number of births, including illegitimate births is the result of the contribution of oral contraception. Illegitimate births at 8.2% of total live births were slightly lower than the average for England and Wales.

A stillborn child is a child born after the 28th week of pregnancy which did not breathe or show any other sign of life. The still-birth rate in 1959 was 21.1, slightly higher than the present rate of 19.7 and comparing unfavourably with the rate of 13 for England and Wales. Stillbirths tend to have causes in common with deaths in the early neo-natal period e.g. hereditary factors, maternal health and obstetric care. The cause of each stillbirth was —

Antipartum haemorrhage	— Male
Antipartum haemorrhage	— Female
Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida	— Female
Acute hydramnios	— Male
(a) Placental insufficiency	—
(b) Prematurity	— Female
No cause found	— Male
Placental insufficiency	— Male

Placental insufficiency	—	Male
(a) Placental insufficiency		
(b) Accidental haemorrhage	—	Male
Rhesus incompatibility	—	Female
Placental insufficiency	—	Female
Asphyxia	—	Male
Placental infarct	—	Male

There were 8 infant deaths under 1 week. The cause of each death was :—

Male	5 mins.	Drowning in lavatory pan due to precipitous labour — misadventure.
Male	4 hours	(a) Multiple congenital abnormalities. (b) Chromosome abnormality.
Male	5 hours	Haemolytic disease of the new born.
Female	12 hours	Prematurity.
Male	14 hours	(a) Pneumothorax due to positive pressure ventilation. (b) Prematurity.
Male	23 hours	Prematurity.
Female	1 day	(a) Asphyxia. (b) Prolapsed cord.

Prematurity, congenital abnormalities and rhesus incompatibility are common factors in stillbirth and deaths under 1 week. Prematurity is a potent cause of infant death, and mortality is directly related to the degree of immaturity. Its exact aetiology is not clear but genotype, the mother's health and antenatal care are important factors. Even those premature infants who are the heaviest in their category have a mortality rate of almost double that of the general neo-natal mortality rate.

The increased perinatal mortality related to 1968 is due entirely to the increase in deaths during the first week. Total infant deaths during the first 12 months compares favourably with the number for England and Wales. They include those neo-natal deaths already tabled plus the following :—

Male	7 weeks	Acute tracheo bronchitis.
Male	2 months	Bronchopneumonia.
Female	3 months	(a) Bronchopneumonia. (b) Malabsorption syndrome.
Female	3 months	(a) Bronchopneumonia. (b) Malabsorption syndrome.

These post neo-natal deaths are predominantly of the environmental type — two due to infection could be classed as avoidable deaths. Any infection at this age is serious and any infection in a child already debilitated by some other disorder e.g. malabsorption is often critical.

Causes of death at different periods of life, registered during 1969.
International abbreviated list.

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, Buccal cavity etc.	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	10	4	14
Malignant neoplasm, Intestine	7	12	19
Malignant neoplasm, Lung bronchus ...	15	4	19
Malignant neoplasm, Breast	—	10	10
Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	—	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, Prostate	2	—	2
Leukaemia	2	—	2
Other malignant neoplasms	13	12	25
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	—	1	1
Diabetes mellitus	3	1	4
Other endocrine etc. diseases	2	1	3
Anaemias	—	2	2
Mental disorders	1	—	1
Meningitis	1	—	1
Other diseases of the nervous system etc.	2	1	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1	2
Hypertensive disease	3	5	8
Ischaemic heart disease	80	43	123
Other forms of heart disease	11	12	23
Cerebrovascular disease	29	39	68
Other diseases of the circulatory system	5	7	12
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	13	14	27
Bronchitis and Emphysema	17	5	22
Asthma	—	1	1
Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	1	3
Peptic ulcer	1	—	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	—	1	1
Other diseases of the digestive system ...	—	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Other diseases, Genito-urinary system ...	1	4	5
Other complications of pregnancy, etc. ...	—	1	1
Congenital abnormalities	3	1	4
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	1	2
Other causes of perinatal mortality ...	2	2	4
Symptoms and ill defined conditions ...	1	5	6
Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
All other accidents	6	3	9
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	—	1	1
All other external causes	1	3	4
	<hr/> 246	<hr/> 213	<hr/> 459

There were 459 deaths, 73 more than in 1968, a rate of 14.3 compared with 11.9 for England and Wales. The increase is largely due to 39 more Coronary deaths and an unexpected increase of 12 deaths from bowel cancer, 7 under the age of 65 years. Increase occurred in deaths from stomach cancer (+1), uterine cancer (+5), breast cancer (+5), diabetes (+2) and accidents (+2). It is gratifying to note a decrease in deaths from lung cancer, 6 fewer than in 1968, but 2 more female deaths. The fact that more men are giving up the habit of cigarette smoking may be offset by an increasing number of women smokers. Of 142 deaths under age 65 years 47 could either have been prevented or successfully treated if diagnosed at an early stage. Certain symptoms which may be, but not necessarily, symptoms of a serious disease must not be ignored; the following indicate the need for investigation :—

- (1) Persistent change in digestion or bowel habit.
- (2) Persistent cough or hoarseness.
- (3) Blood loss from any natural orifice.
- (4) Swelling or sore that will not heal.
- (5) Unexplained weight loss.
- (6) Lump in the breast.

Regarding coronary disease and hypertension our knowledge of their causation is as yet inadequate. But a balanced diet low in sugar content and perhaps animal fat, adequate rest and exercise, moderate use of tobacco and alcohol will reduce the predisposition to heart disease, respiratory disorders and diabetes.

There was one maternal death during the year. The cause of death was certified as — Pulmonary embolism due to right deep femoral vein thrombosis.

Ages and Causes of Accidental Deaths

Male	5 mins.	Drowning due to precipitous labour sustained when deceased's mother gave birth to him whilst seated on the lavatory pan at her home.
Male	3 years	Laceration of the brain due to fracture of base of skull sustained when deceased was run over by a van.
Male	8 years	Shock and haemorrhage due to multiple injuries sustained when deceased was run down by a motor car.
Male	13 years	Laceration of brain and fracture of skull sustained when a pedal cycle ridden by deceased collided with a motor van.
Male	17 years	Fracture of skull and multiple injuries sustained on the 7th October, 1969 when he was hit by a Diesel train at Gwastadgoed Railway Cutting, Llwyngwrl, walking on railway track.
Female	21 years	Severe laceration of brain due to fracture of skull due to severe head injury — passenger in motor car which overturned.

Male	26 years	Massive collapse of the lungs due to surgical emphysema following traumatic rupture of the trachea. Accident — driver of car/wall.
Male	42 years	Asphyxia due to Compression injury to chest sustained when deceased became trapped between the seat and the steering wheel of a fork lift truck when it collided with a trailer.
Male	47 years	Left Haemo-pneumo. thorax due to ruptured left main bronchus and lacerated left lung and crush injury of chest sustained when deceased was struck by a mechanical excavator.
Male	47 years	Asphyxia due to carbon monoxide poisoning sustained when a fire occurred at deceased's home.
Male	50 years	Left haemothorax due to laceration of upper lobe of left lung, due to fracture of left third rib.
Female	69 years	Pulmonary embolism due to left femoral vein thrombosis due to fracture of left ankle sustained when deceased fell to the ground.
Female	70 years	Pulmonary embolism due to fracture of neck of right femur sustained on 17.2.69 when deceased fell on the pavement in Chester Road, Wrexham.
Female	88 years	Cardio respiratory failure due to congestive cardiac failure accelerated by fracture of neck of femur.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

The diseases to be notified under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968 are :—

Acute encephalitis	Malaria
Acute meningitis	Measles
Acute poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia neonatorum
Amoebic dysentery	Paratyphoid fever
Anthrax	Scarlet fever
Bacillary dysentery	Tetanus
Diphtheria	Tuberculosis
Infective jaundice	Typhoid fever
Leprosy	Whooping Cough
Leptospirosis	Yellow fever

TABLE SHOWING NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR 1969

(arranged according to age)

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>5 to 9</i>	<i>10 to 14</i>	<i>15 to 44</i>	<i>45 to 64</i>	<i>65 Plus</i>	<i>Total</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	8	13	12	4	—	—	—	37
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	14	4	9	3	9	—	—	40
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	5	14	20	9	—	—	—	—	48
Whooping Cough	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	4
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTAL:	7	36	39	30	10	15	3	—	140

In addition to the notifiable infectious diseases small localised outbreaks of german measles and mumps occurred in the Spring. The febrile common cold caused some absence from school and employment during January, and in March there was an abrupt and substantial increase in first claims for sickness benefits due to Influenza; the infection died just as abruptly. An extensive outbreak, however, commenced in the pre-Christmas period affecting, in particular, public transport.

There were no cases of Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis or Enteric fever, though one suspected case of Paratyphoid in a child on holiday from the Middle East and one Typhoid contact of confirmed cases on a cruise ship were investigated; both were clear.

Sporadic cases of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough were notified. The great majority of dysentery notifications were in pre-school and primary school children. Twenty cases of measles during the first 3 months were the last of a fairly extensive outbreak which commenced in the autumn of 1968 and further cases during November/December heralded a further epidemic in 1970.

Two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in young adult males; two in middle aged persons were the result of a breakdown of previous lesions. Three were admitted to hospital for treatment.

The large number of cases of food poisoning in 1968 was due to two large outbreaks. This year three cases were notified all due to Salmonella organisms. Two were in members of the same family and infection had occurred during a holiday in Spain. The third case was notified from the Maelor General Hospital and the source of the infection remained a mystery — all home and hospital contacts were clear of infection.

There were 4 cases of Infectious Hepatitis, 2 in members of the same family. This is an acute virus infectious disease; the virus has not as yet been identified. For every case showing frank jaundice there are probably 10 cases infected, cases that are infectious but can only be diagnosed by biochemical tests.

NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1st January 1969	84	58	9	10	161
31st December 1969	75	39	9	3	126

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS

No. 1 Grosvenor Road Monday and Wednesday Afternoons
Medical Officer — Dr. Alwyn Griffith

Prince Charles Road Monday and Thursday Afternoons
Medical Officer — Dr. Ann Benjamin

Hightown, St. John's Church Hall
(pending opening of new
clinic premises) Wednesday Afternoons
Medical Officer — Dr. Alice Speight

The Institute, Garden Village Tuesday Afternoons
Medical Officer — Dr. Alice Speight

8,884 infants and young children attended Child Health Centres during the year. The work in Child Health Clinics involves awareness of child development and potentially hostile influences and an understanding of how these may be modified or offset. Screening tests

are available to detect certain known specific abnormalities e.g. every child is urine tested for an inherited metabolic disorder, phenylketonuria, which if untreated causes serious mental disorder which is irreversible. There is a close working relationship with general practitioners and hospital consultants.

A comprehensive dental service is provided for children up to school leaving age and to expectant mothers at 1, Grosvenor Road and at the clinic premises Prince Charles Road.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

<i>Initial Course</i>					
	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	1952-61
Diphtheria	145	29	5	55	40
Whooping Cough ...	145	28	4	42	17
Tetanus	145	29	5	55	43

<i>Booster Protection</i>					
	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	1952-61
Diphtheria	97	234	32	667	311
Whooping Cough ...	93	188	14	251	55
Tetanus	97	234	32	615	106

Poliomyelitis

<i>Primary Vaccination</i>					
1968	1967	1966	1962-65	1952-61	<i>Others</i>
199	47	6	42	72	10

<i>Booster Vaccination</i>					
1968	1967	1966	1962-65	1952-61	<i>Others</i>
2	9	8	587	465	113

Smallpox Vaccination

<i>Primary Vaccination</i>				<i>Re-Vaccination</i>			
1-2	2-4	5-15	16 and over	1-2	2-4	5-15	16 and over
192	101	18	46	1	—	7	58

Measles

1968	1967	1966	1962—65	1952—61
22	88	65	66	3

Of infants born in 1968 — 65% have so far been fully immunised against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus and Poliomyelitis. Only 25% have been vaccinated against Smallpox. These are unsatisfactory figures and compare unfavourably with those quoted in my last Annual Report for infants born in 1967 — 80% and 25% respectively. The necessity of maintaining a high immunisation rate, our only protection against the resurgence of these killer diseases is of paramount importance. There may be none in Britain, but they are not uncommon on the Continent and may easily be imported. We are reminded of the suspected outbreak of poliomyelitis in Spain in July; this caused a rush for vaccination by would-be travellers and holiday makers resulting in an acute shortage of vaccine; few, however, returned to complete their course.

The measles vaccination programme was proceeding steadily until the shortage in March following the withdrawal of one brand of vaccine which was believed to have caused serious complications in three children vaccinated.

Of all cases of Enteric fever that occur in Britain 70% are contracted abroad, the majority in Spain and Italy. Holidaymakers are again advised that T.A.B. vaccination will ensure a high degree of protection.

94 Council employees were immunised against Influenza.

The Elderly and Handicapped

It is estimated that there are 4,550 persons over the age of 65 years in the Borough. Many do not require any help, but an increasing number do. Statutory services fall short of two precious commodities — money and staff — and neither is likely to be substantially alleviated in the foreseeable future.

Services provided include :—

General Practitioner Services

Hospital Services

Home Nursing — 17,081 visits made during the year.

Health Visiting — 8,728 visits made during the year.

Chiropody — 74 persons received first treatment and a total of 1,217 attended for treatment.

Ministry of Social Security — Supplementary benefits
e.g. rent allowance to meet exceptional needs.

Voluntary helpers —

Meals on Wheels service, organised by the W.R.V.S. A total of 4,359 meals were delivered in 1969 by 40 helpers giving a total of 1,872 hours. Meals are supplied by the canteens at St. David's C.S. school during school term and the Maelor Hospital during school holidays.

Senior school pupils, Cartrefle students and pupils at Bryn Estyn school visit elderly people in their homes and help with shopping and gardening.

County Welfare Residential Homes

County Welfare residential accommodation has remained unchanged. There is still no evidence of the long promised Home in Rhosddu materialising. The total beddage in the Wrexham area is :—

Welfare Establishment, Wrexham 37 beds

Nazareth House, Wrexham 66 beds

Number of elderly persons in Wrexham Borough on the waiting list for accommodation — 30.

National Assistance Act, 1948 — Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and protection.

No action was taken under this Act during 1969.

Family Planning

The clinic provided by the Family Planning Association is held at 1, Grosvenor Road on Thursdays, 2—3.30 p.m., and on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings, 6-45—8 p.m.

There are probably 200,000 unwanted pregnancies a year in Britain and the argument for preventing rather than terminating them is a strong one.

The number of new cases attending during 1969 was 483 and total attendance — 1,459. The steady increase in attendance emphasises the need for an additional clinic, preferably at the clinic premises at Prince Charles Road.

Cervical Cytology

This is the forerunner of further clinics for the early detection of cancer at an early stage before the appearance of clinical symptoms and at a stage when effective treatment will guarantee a permanent cure.

The present clinic, held at 1 Grosvenor Road on Monday and Thursday evenings, is for detecting early malignant changes in the uteri cervix. Other tests which can be performed quickly and effectively are done — vision and hearing tests, breast examination, urine and blood tests. There is also an opportunity of discussing any health problems with the doctor and health visitor in attendance.

561 attended the Clinics during the year. 85 with abnormal findings were referred for treatment.

Pre-school Playgroup Association

There is an increasing demand for playgroup facilities. There are 400 children attending 15 branch groups in the Wrexham area. The branches in Wrexham are at Acton, Belle Vue, Garden Village, Yr Ysgol Feithrin, Maesydre, Queen's Park and Rhosddu.

WATER SUPPLY

The following report is by Mr. H. Seddon, B.Sc., F.I.C.E., Engineer, Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company.

- (a) The water supply to the Borough of Wrexham was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

(b) Raw Waters

30 samples of raw water from the four sources which supply the Borough of Wrexham were subjected to bacteriological examination.

Treated Waters

49 samples were examined of the treated water leaving those of the Company's works which supply the Borough. They were all satisfactory. A further 13 samples of water were examined by Dr. Ingham of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, all of which were satisfactory.

Service Reservoirs

12 samples of treated water from the Company's Higher Berse Reservoir, which supplies part of Wrexham, were also bacteriologically examined and found to be satisfactory.

Consumers' Taps

12 samples of water were collected from consumers' taps situated in the Borough and bacteriologically examined. They were all satisfactory.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

Raw Waters

9 samples of raw water from three sources were subjected to chemical analysis in connection with the supply to the Borough.

Treated Waters

6 samples of treated water from the Company's works supplying Wrexham were subjected to chemical analysis.

Fluoride Content

Fluoride determinations were not included in the routine chemical analyses of the supplies.

(c) Plumbo-solvency

No specific plumbo-solvency tests were carried out on the Company's supply to the Borough during 1969. Lead tests were included in the routine chemical analysis of treated water leaving the Company's works during 1969. The treatment carried out at the Company's works to counteract factors affecting possible plumbo-solvency of the water is as follows :—

- (1) pH value and acidity of the water.
Lime at Llwyn-Onn works and sodium hydroxide at Legacy Works are added to the water to correct acidity and raise the pH value.
- (2) Calcium and magnesium bicarbonate content.
Lime addition at Llwyn-Onn also raises the calcium bicarbonate content of the water.
- (3) Organic content.
Organic purification of the water is brought about by coagulation and filtration at both works supplying water to the Borough.

As a final precaution against possible plumbo-solvency, the Company uses tin-washed lead pipes for consumers' communication pipes throughout its distribution system.

- (d) No significant bacteriological contamination occurred during 1969.
- (e) The number of premises supplied within the Borough of Wrexham at the end of 1969 was 13,263. No water is supplied by means of standposts.

Fluoride content, not determined in routine analysis, is minimal at less than 0.1p.p.m. Following the publication of the report "Fluoridation studies in the U.K. after 11 years" and the slow progress made by Local Authorities, the Government may have to legislate to deal with the problem.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Borough Council drainage area is served by Five Fords Sewage Works. The works were designed for a dry weather flow of 1.75 million gallons per day and is at present treating a dry weather flow of 2.2 m.g.d.

The sewage is treated by preliminary screening, grit removal, primary sedimentation, biological filters, final settlement tanks. The sludges, both primary and secondary, are treated by cold digestion and lagooning. At the present time the effluent standard required by the Dee and Clwyd River Authority is the Royal Commission Standard of 20:30.

On the 1st April, 1969 the Wrexham and District Joint Sewerage Committee was formed and under this new controlling body a programme of works has been initiated to extend the present treatment facilities from 2.2 m.g.d. to 6 m.g.d. Tertiary grass plot treatment is also being provided for the existing flow to produce an effluent within the River Authority's Standard.

The programme of works is scheduled to be completed in 2 years time and will include full sludge treatment facilities.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Hospital Accommodation:

War Memorial Hospital:	Beds
General Medicine	112
Unclassified	6
Private	6
Orthopaedics	79
 Maelor General Hospital:	 Beds
General Surgery	170
Gynaecology	50
Paediatric Unit	55
Obstetric Unit	56
Special Care for Babies	24
Dermatology	6
Ophthalmology	24
Ear, Nose and Throat	24
Dentistry	4
Chest Diseases	20
Infectious Diseases	30
Geriatric Unit	76
Private	4

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC

22 patients attended the clinic at the War Memorial Hospital for treatment of gonorrhoea. 80 attended for treatment of "other conditions". There was one case of syphilis.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The service consists of 54 Area Laboratories and 17 Reference and Special Laboratories. Specimens are accepted from local authorities, family doctors and hospitals e.g. throat swabs, faeces, blood. In addition specimens concerned with the control of public health e.g. water, milk and ice cream are also accepted for bacteriological and viral examination. The Service is prepared to advise food manufacturers to assist in the production of safe products.

All specimens taken by the Health Department are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester — Director, Dr. Pauline Poole.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1969.**

**TO THE CHAIRMAN
AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Twenty-Fourth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors' Department.

There were no staff changes during the year.

The protection of our environment and the problems of pollution are the subjects of fairly regular comment these days as we approach 1970 — European Conservation Year. It is good that the assault on our environment by such things as noise, atmospheric and other forms of pollution, bad housing, pesticides etc., should be discussed, and there are encouraging signs of stronger and more positive action being taken to tackle these hazards to the health and comfort of the community.

Continuing on the theme of improving the environment, I feel I am justified in claiming that Wrexham is making considerable progress in various directions. Slum clearance has been virtually completed and attention is now being directed to the provision of modern amenities to the substantially built older houses in the town. Wrexham has more houses subject to formal smoke control orders than anywhere in the Principality, and it is hoped that this number will be doubled by the end of 1971.

The enforcement of the law relating to working conditions in shops and offices, and a steady improvement in hygienic practices in food premises, are further indications of environmental progress in the Borough. In connection with food hygiene, a successful Clean Food Exhibition was held during the year.

Once again, I must acknowledge the help I have received from Dr. Alwyn Griffith. To all my Staff, I pay tribute to their loyalty and good work during a very busy year.

In conclusion, I would express my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all the Members of the Health Committee for your guidance and encouragement.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Your obedient Servant,

A. McCARTNEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

TABULATED SUMMARY OF SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Total No. of inspections made	14,798
Total No. of complaints received	849
Total No. of notices served	70
Total No. of interviews with owners etc.	2,276

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No. of smoke observations made	26
No. of visits made	3,404
No. of notices served (Formal)	—
No. of notices served (Informal)	6

The third Smoke Control Order came into operation in September of this year. Over 2,000 properties in an area of 586 acres became smokeless, and this will undoubtedly help to improve the cleanliness of the atmosphere.

Towards the end of the year, a fourth Order was submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation. This affects over 3,000 houses, and when it becomes operative, approximately fifty per cent of the houses in the Borough will be smoke controlled.

The implementation of the smoke control programme has not been without its problems, although it is true to say that Wrexham has not been so acutely affected as other areas in the United Kingdom. The lack of co-ordination in the preparation of a suitable national policy for the production of solid smokeless fuel has led to considerable embarrassment for local authorities and caused unnecessary frustration to householders.

The accompanying graphs show the readings for both smoke and sulphur dioxide in three different locations in the Borough.

DISINFESTATION

No. of complaints received	92
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CINEMAS AND PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

No. of inspections made	20
No. of Notices served	—
No. of Notices complied with	—

CLOSETS

No. of water-closets repaired or reconstructed	1
No. of flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	2
No. of new water-closet pedestals provided	2
No. provided with supply of water	2
Light and ventilation improved	—

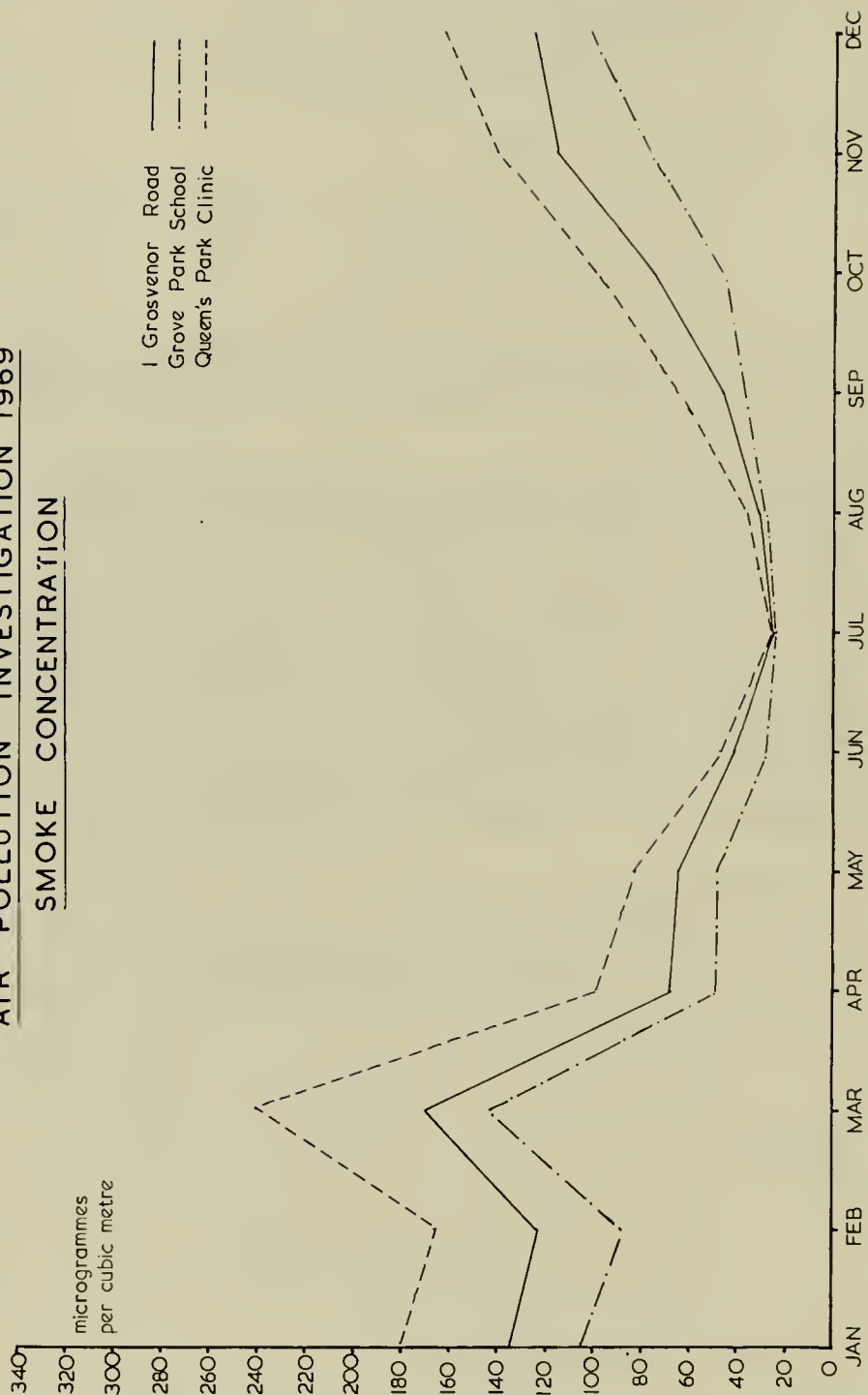
COMMON LODGING HOUSES

No. on Register	—
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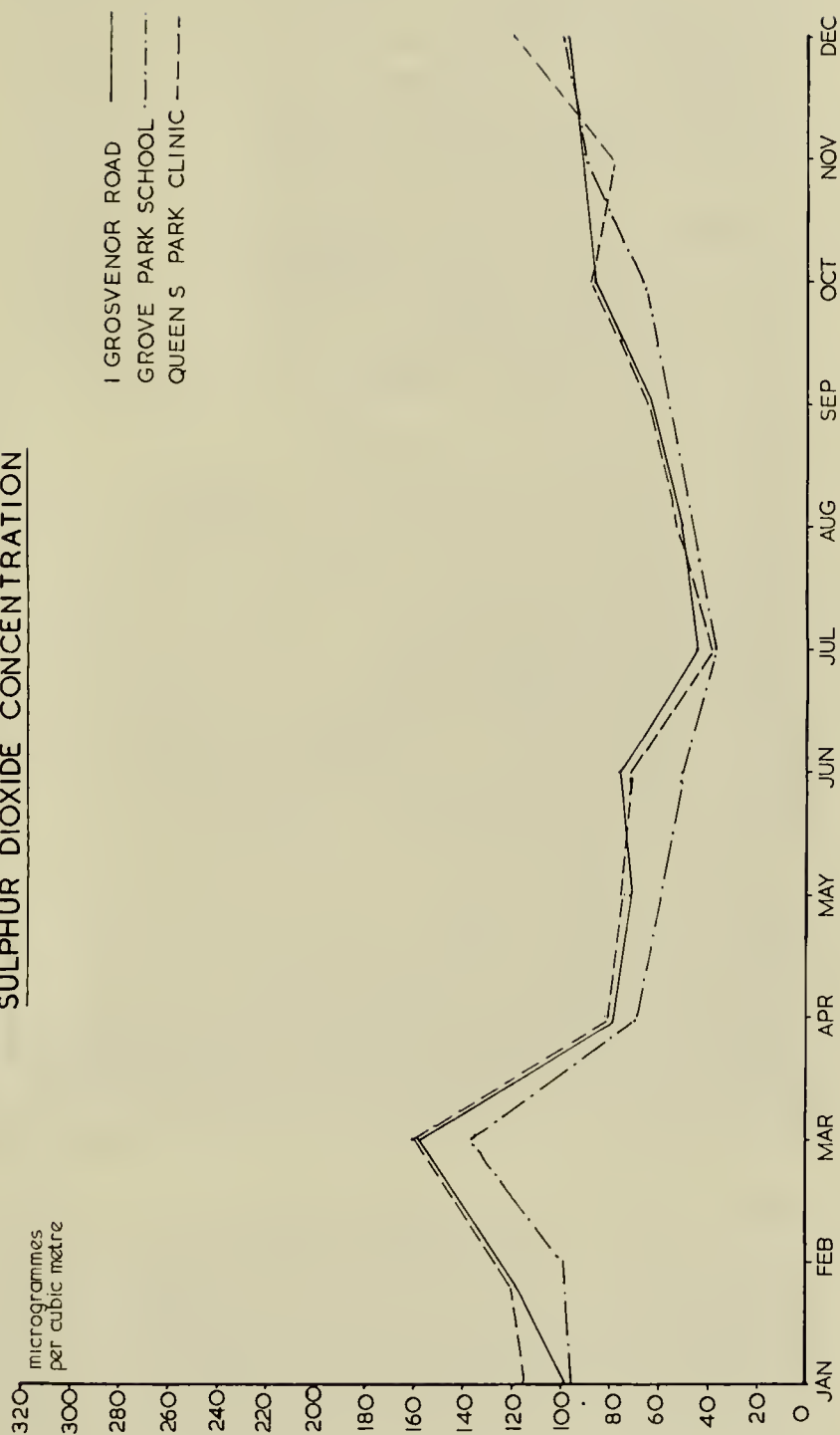
BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

AIR POLLUTION INVESTIGATION 1969

SMOKE CONCENTRATION



BOROUGH OF WREXHAM
AIR POLLUTION INVESTIGATION 1969
SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATION



DRAINS

Drains constructed or reconstructed	1
Repaired or cleansed	193
New inspection chambers	1
Inspection chambers repaired	—
Ventilated	—
Gullies provided or renewed	—
New sinks provided	—
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	2
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	—

FACTORIES (EXCLUDING BAKEHOUSES)

No. of Factories in District (Mech.)	184
No. of Factories in District (Non-Mech.)	36
No. of inspections made	136
No. of contraventions found	2
No. of contraventions remedied	—
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ENQUIRIES

No. of investigations carried out	162
No. of specimens submitted for examination	244
No. of premises disinfected	5

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No. of businesses in District	4
No. of inspections made	73
No. of contraventions found	—
No. of contraventions remedied	—
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES

No. of premises registered	598
No. of inspections made	649

Registration and Inspection.

During the year 9 premises were newly registered, bringing the total number of registered premises to 598.

240 premises have had a general inspection during the year, bringing the total of general inspections to 1,074 since the Act came into operation. The number of visits of all kinds, including general inspections, to registered premises in 1969 was 649.

All premises on the register have now had a general inspection.

Operation of the General Provisions of the Act.

As a result of the inspections carried out, a total of 16 Notices were served, for a variety of infringements, during the year. From the details given below, it will be seen that action was taken under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations, 1968, which came into operation on the 28th May, 1969, and imposed an important new duty on the inspectorate.

24 Notices served before and during 1969 were complied with. A total of 267 Notices have been served since the Act came into operation and these have either been complied with or work is in progress.

The Notices served during 1969 related to 33 specific contraventions of the Act and are detailed below :—

Section 4.	Cleanliness	2
Section 6.	Temperature	7
Section 9.	Sanitary Conveniences	3
Section 10.	Washing Facilities	1
Section 16.	Floors, passages, stairs	4
Section 17.	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	1
Section 24.	First Aid	4
Information for Employees Regulations, 1965		9
Hoists and Lifts Regulations, 1968		2
		—
Total		33
		—

Investigation of Accidents.

Seventeen accidents were notified during the year and all were investigated. 5 male and 12 female employees were involved. Five of the accidents were caused by slipping on floors or stairs and one by falling off a ladder. One accident was notified of a female employed as office cleaner who sustained a torn leg ligament due to falling off a chair whilst dusting the top of a filing cabinet. On investigation it was found that steps were provided for this work but were kept locked up. The employers were instructed to keep these steps readily available at all times. Two accidents occurred due to dropping articles while handling. There were four cases of strains while handling goods. One male employee in a grocery shop was cut when the knife slipped as he was boning bacon. A delivery man hurt his foot when he jumped down from the cab of his vehicle and one person was injured on the head when the truck she was loading tipped up. A notification was received that a boy shop assistant had injured his head on a supporting girder over the cellar steps. This had resulted in cuts and bruises and necessitated stitches. Investigation showed that there was no obstruction and that this accident could not have occurred by normal use of the staircase. A case which could have had more serious consequences was due to the storage of goods on a staircase. A carton of biscuits fell over the banister on to an employee as she was ascending the staircase. The attention of the management was drawn to the provisions of Section 16 of the Act and a warning notice was served.

Prosecutions.

There were no prosecutions during the year.

Inspection Arrangements.

Enforcement arrangements are being reviewed by many local authorities, and the Safety, Health, and Welfare Division of the Department of Employment and Productivity has requested the inclusion of comments under the above heading in this and subsequent annual reports. It is considered that an exchange of experience by enforcing authorities would be helpful.

The number of Inspectors appointed by Wrexham Borough Council to enforce the provisions of the Act and Regulations thereunder is 5 and one Clerk is responsible for the office administration work involved. The Inspectors are Public Health Inspectors and inspections under this Act are carried out as part of the general public health administration of the area. The whole area is divided into three districts, each having a District Public Health Inspector in charge. The Chief and Deputy Chief Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the overall administration of the area and for dealing with any special problems which may arise.

To date, the Inspectors have concentrated on the inspection of all premises which have been registered and the revisiting of these premises where contraventions of the Act were found. Now that this work is completed, premises will be inspected immediately on receipt of the registration form O.S.R.1. and it is hoped that a street by street survey of all premises, whether registered or not, will be carried out. It would appear from the Council's Analysis of Rateable Value of Hereditaments that the number of registered premises is probably a little over 50% of those requiring registration. This seems to be typical of the experience of other local authorities. Every accident reported is investigated, whatever the circumstances, in order to gain experience in this field.

A card register is maintained of all premises and on the completion of the general inspection, full details of the premises and the number of employees are entered on the card and subsequent revisits are recorded together with details of works completed and Notices complied with. A separate file is kept of all accident reports and investigations in order to facilitate the completion of the quarterly reports required. The whole system is geared to give information as quickly as possible for the purpose of reports and re-inspections.

In addition to inspecting premises, all plans submitted for the erection of new properties, or the adaptation of existing properties, are examined and advice is given to prospective owners and occupiers regarding the provisions of the Act.

RODENT CONTROL.

No. of complaints received of rat infestation	137
No. of premises found to be infested	112
No. of complaints received of mice infestation	249
No. of premises found to be infested	308
Total number of visits made	3,408
No. of sewer treatments carried out	3

The position with regard to the control of rodents in the town is very satisfactory. Regular routine visits to possible sites of infestation such as refuse tips and the river banks, and thrice yearly baiting of the sewers, has ensured that there are no major rat infestations within the Borough. It is not possible to guarantee complete eradication, and the whole emphasis of our work is on rodent control, so as to prevent breeding and the growth of major infestations.

There is very little evidence of "Warfarin resistance" of rats in Wrexham, such as that found in Mid Wales. In common with other local authorities, we are finding it necessary to vary our poisoning techniques for the eradication of mice.

DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Dampness.

No. of roofs renewed or repaired	11
No. of eavesgutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	5
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid	1

Other Work.

No. of walls repaired	5
No. of walls rendered or repointed	—
No. of ceilings repaired	4
No. of floors repaired	5
No. of chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	1
No. of firegrates repaired or renewed	3
Damp proof courses provided and dampness remedied ...	7
No. of doors and windows repaired or renewed	2
No. of food stores ventilated	—
Offensive accumulations removed	1
Sufficient water supply provided	3
Staircases repaired or renewed	—

SWIMMING BATHS.

No. of Swimming Baths in the District	1
No. of samples taken (Bacteriological)	15
No. of samples satisfactory	13

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No. of inspections made	90
No. of contraventions found	—

There are no licensed sites within the Borough. Inspections made during the year were mainly to deal with travelling tinkers who were resorting to temporary occupation of sites while engaged in various activities such as scrap metal dealing etc.

Part II of The Caravan Sites Act, 1968, will come into operation on April 1st, 1970. Under this Act, the definition of gipsy makes no distinction between different groups of travellers or their trades. Gipsies are not defined by race but as persons of nomadic life such as Romanies, didicois or tinkers, but excluding travelling showmen or circus people.

County Borough Councils and County Councils are required by the new Act to inform the Minister by June 30th, 1970 of the numbers and location of caravan sites for gipsies to be provided within their districts. District Councils such as Wrexham will have to provide services and facilities and manage any sites provided by the County Council. Councils who consider they have no such problem may apply for exemption from the provision of sites.

As far as this area is concerned, I understand that Denbighshire County Council have the matter under urgent consideration.

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination... ..	13
No. of samples satisfactory	12
No. of samples taken for chemical analysis	—
No. of samples satisfactory	—

WELL WATER.

No. of samples taken	17
No. of samples satisfactory	17

HOUSING

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

No. of dwelling-houses where defects were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	11
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(A) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts. Public Health Act, 1936 & Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act, 1969.	
Section 93.	
(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year	2
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Abatement Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	—
Section 45.	
(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year	1
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defective water-closets to be repaired	2
(3) No. of dwelling-houses where defective water-closets were repaired after service of Formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	—
Section 39.	
(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year	1
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served for the renewing or repairing of existing drains	4

(3)	No. of dwelling-houses where the existing drains were renewed and cleansed :—	
	(a) By Owners	5
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(4)	No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	—
Section 138 and Water Act, 1945. Section 30.		
(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requesting Owner to provide water supply in pipes	—
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in which water supply was provided after service of Formal Notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(3)	No. of Notices outstanding at end of year	—
Public Health Act, 1961.		
Section 17.		
	No. of Notices served	—
	No. of Notices complied with	—
(B)	Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served under Section 16	—
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
(4)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(5)	No. of dwelling-houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	1
(6)	No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Undertaking given by Owner	—
(7)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Undertaking from owners accepted not to relet houses for human habitation	—

(8)	No. of Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	—
(9)	No. of Local Authority owned houses demolished in pursuance of Medical Officer of Health's Certificate	—
(D)	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—
(E)	Housing Act, 1957. Overcrowding	
(1)	(a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year) (b) No. of families dwelling therein) Not (c) No. of persons dwelling therein) known	
(2)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(3)	(a) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	49
	(b) No. of persons concerned in such cases	147
(4)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Not Known.

CLEARANCE OF UNFIT HOUSES.

In August of this year the Housing Act, 1969 came into operation. Its main emphasis is directed to the improvement of older houses both individually and by way of area improvement, and it is hoped that the rate at which these houses will be provided with modern amenities will be greatly accelerated.

Wrexham is ideally suited for action to be taken under this new piece of legislation. Recent surveys have shown that less than five hundred substantial older houses require the provision of one or more of the standard amenities.

Very few unfit houses remain in the town, and in accordance with Welsh Office Circular 94/69, a programme to clear 49 unfit houses by 1971 has been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

During the year, one Compulsory Purchase Order and one Clearance Order were made and one unfit dwelling was closed.

A total of 97 houses were demolished, and 44 persons rehoused from unfit dwellings.

Since the clearance of unfit houses was resumed in 1955, 40 Clearance Areas have been declared, involving 560 houses, and individual action has been taken with regard to 127 houses. In addition, a total of 364 dwellings, mainly temporary hutments and prefabricated houses, have been demolished and replaced by permanent houses. The total of unfit dwellings dealt with is 1,051 with a population of 2,928 persons.

Clearance Areas dealt with 1955 — 1969.

<i>Clearance Area</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>No. of persons involved</i>
Offa Terrace	27	76
Templars Avenue	10	29
James Street, Edge Street, Crescent Road.	54	236
Penybryn, Ruabon Road	7	12
Barnfield (No. 1)	6	19
Barnfield (No. 2)	6	19
Eagle Street	10	29
Lorne Street	13	37
Park Street	7	23
Dean Road, Acton Terrace	27	89
Holt Road	13	39
Barnfield (No. 3)	2	—
Crescent Road	7	34
Mount Street (No. 1)	8	22
Ashfield Road	37	116
Earle Street	4	12
Erddig Road	23	71
Madeira Hill	10	30
Springfield Terrace	15	43
Garden Road	14	37
Alma Terrace	13	32
Holt Street	12	24
Tuttle Street (No. 1)	18	64
Tuttle Street (No. 2)	4	12
Lorne Street, 1962	5	15
Lorne Street, 1964	22	59
Park Street	11	32
Hilly View, Erddig Road	3	7
Earle Street	3	8
Erddig Road, 1964	4	4
Abenbury Street	24	55
Meifod Place	42	119
Hightown (No. 1)	58	136
Hightown (No. 2)	9	25
Hightown (No. 3)	9	14
Ruabon Road	4	8
Smithy Lane	2	3
West Street	5	12
Greenbank Street	2	6
Fairfield Street	10	25
40	560	1,633

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES.

During the year applications were approved for 45 standard grants and 6 improvement grants. In addition, the Housing Committee of the Council authorised improvements to the amenities of 142 pre-war Council dwellings.

THE RENT ACT, 1957

Details of work during the year are as follows:—

No. of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair (Form I)	—
No. of Decisions not to issue Certificates	—
No. of Proposals to Issue (Form J)	—
No. of Undertakings received (Form K)	—
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued (Form L)	—
No. of Cancellations applied for (Form M)	—
No. of Cancellations issued	—

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

	No. in district	No. of inspections made
Bakehouses	15	51
Butchers' Shops	43	50
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	39	46
Confectioners	19	32
Dairies and Milk Shops	43	35
Fried Fish Shops	15	22
Fruit and Greengrocers	46	26
General Provision Shops	101	327
Hotels, Clubs and Licensed Premises	67	81
Ice-Cream Premises	134	44
Wet Fish Shops	8	21
Street Food Vendors	—	320

The following canned and other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Lbs.	Lbs.
Tinned Foods 3,861 $\frac{1}{4}$	Sausages 30
Fruit 60	Frozen Chickens 251 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cereals 43 $\frac{3}{4}$	Meat 1,699
Flour 250	Pigs Maws 470
Fish 434	Frozen Foods 1,526
Sugar 19	Bacon 88
Poultry 776 $\frac{1}{2}$	Biscuits 102 $\frac{1}{2}$
Preserves 17 $\frac{3}{4}$	Dried Fruit 32
Cheese 3	Miscellaneous 31 $\frac{3}{4}$

TOTAL :— 9,696 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

Percentage classifications are as follows :—

Home	72.95%	=	7,073 ³ / ₄ lbs.
Foreign	22.84%	=	2,214 ³ / ₄ lbs.
Commonwealth	4.21%	=	407 ³ / ₄ lbs.
<hr/>			
	100.00%	=	9,696 ¹ / ₄ lbs.
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FOOD COMPLAINTS.

Twenty-eight complaints concerning food were investigated during the year. All were dealt with informally and it was not considered necessary to institute statutory action.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

A total of 25 formal samples and 21 informal samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

Formal		Informal	
Milk	25	Milk	6
		Ice-Cream	12
		Double Cream	2
		Butter	1

I am indebted to Mr. D. H. Owens, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Denbighshire County Council, for the following details of his work in the Borough of Wrexham during the year.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard</i>
Milk	54	54	—
Butter	4	4	—
Margarine	2	2	—
Lard	1	1	—
Pure Fat	1	1	—
Cheese	2	2	—
Tinned Meats	2	2	—
Meat Pies	3	2	1
Sausage Rolls	2	2	—
Black Pudding	1	1	—
Beef Curry with Rice	1	1	—
Sandwich Spread	1	1	—
Cream Cakes	1	1	—
Ice-Cream	6	6	—
Inst. Low Fat Milk	1	1	—
Cream	3	3	—
Fresh Cream Dessert	1	1	—
Ice Lolly	1	1	—
Vegetable Juice	1	1	—
Tomato Piquant	1	1	—

Continued from previous page.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine, or Sub-Standard</i>
Savoury Sauce Mix	2	2	—
Tinned Fruit	1	1	—
Sweets	4	4	—
Mixed Fruit	1	1	—
Soft Drinks	2	2	—
Beer	1	1	—
Wine	1	1	—
Whiskey	3	3	—
Gin	1	1	—
Slimming Foods	2	2	—
Tincture of Borax	1	1	—
Tincture of Iodine	1	1	—
Worm Syrup	1	1	—
Syrup of Figs	1	1	—
Glaubers Salts	1	1	—
Epson Salts	1	1	—
Spirit of Sal Volatile	1	1	—
TOTALS:	114	113	1

As will be observed from the table, 54 samples of milk and 60 samples of other foods etc., were taken in the Borough of Wrexham during the year. No milk sample was found to be incorrect. It should be pointed out that in addition to the usual tests for quality, samples of farm bottled milk are tested for the presence of antibiotics. Each such test carried out gave a negative result. Only one sample of food received an adverse report from the Analyst, this was a meat pie which was found to be not of the quality demanded in that it bore traces of rodent excreta. The company concerned were prosecuted and convicted. A number of complaints have been made during the year. One such complaint concerned carrots which were found to be mouldy. Again the defending company were prosecuted and convicted. Further complaints concerning a meat pie and mushrooms were found to be unjustified. As you will appreciate a considerable amount of routine inspection work is done under the labelling of food order and regulations of the Act during the course of the year. During such inspections every opportunity is taken to examine the labelling and compositional requirements appertaining to food.

In addition to the number of samples submitted to the Analyst, a further 30 informal samples of milk were taken by the Inspectors and tested at the Wrexham office. The samples were taken from schools, institutes, hospitals, vending machines etc. The results of the tests in each instance were found to be satisfactory.

DUTIES RELATING TO ICE-CREAM.

There are 134 registered premises for ice-cream including two manufacturers. The shops selling ice-cream are supplied by eleven different makers.

During the year the following samples were taken :—

Bacteriological :— 10.	These were graded as follows by the Public Health Laboratory Service :—
	Grade 1 10
	Grade 2 —
	Grade 3 —
	Grade 4 —

Twelve samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, and were found to be up to the required statutory standard.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.

A total of 51,361 animals were slaughtered at the Abattoir during the year, compared with 67,109 in 1968.

The decrease in the number of animals slaughtered is causing concern to abattoir authorities throughout the country, and a number of public abattoirs are incurring heavy financial deficits. It is pleasing to record a small surplus in Wrexham for the second successive year, although it should be pointed out that an increase in abattoir tolls in mid-year made all the difference in balancing the abattoir accounts.

A number of reasons have been advanced to account for the decrease in the number of animals slaughtered. It is suggested that it is the aftermath of the foot and mouth disease outbreak in 1967-68. The greatly increased consumption of poultry is also considered to be relevant, as is the substantial reduction in imports of cattle from Eire. The National Association of British Markets Authorities are making representations to the Ministry of Agriculture requesting that a policy of moderate concentration of slaughtering be again considered, with a view to the reduction of a number of private slaughter-houses, and directing the stock for slaughter from these to public abattoirs.

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>
No. Slaughtered	4,410	342	27,435	19,154	20
No. Inspected	4,410	342	27,435	19,154	20
Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	7	15	111	83	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	2,059	154	5,551	3,111	—
%of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysti- cerci.	46.8 %	49.4 %	20.6 %	16.7 %	35.0 %
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	—	2	—	410	—
% of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	—	.6%	—	2.1 %	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	5	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to- treatment by refrigeration.	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned.	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat condemned during the year :—

27 tons — cwts. — qrs. 17 lbs.

APPENDIX TO THE ANNUAL REPORT RELATING TO THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS relating to provisions for health made by the
Public Health Inspectors during 1969.

<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>NUMBER OF</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories where Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	36	—	—
(ii) Factories not included above where Section 7 is to be enforced by the Local Authority.	184	2	—
(iii) Other premises where Section 7 is to be en- forced by the Local Authority.	—	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>No. of cases with defects found</i>				
<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		<i>Prose- cuted</i>
		<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Sanitary conveniences (Section 7)				
(a) Insufficient.	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive.	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for the sexes.	—	—	—	—
Total defects under part 1 of the Act.	2	—	—	—

Part VIII of the Act. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work.

Section 133

	<i>No. of out workers in August list as required by Sect. 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>
Wearing apparel: Making etc.	1	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	2	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	1	—	—
TOTAL:	4	—	—

No instances relating to Section 134 (unwholesome premises) were known.

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